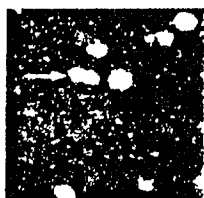
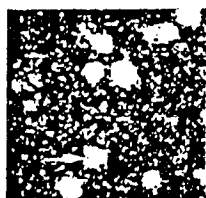


March, 1991, Sky & Telescope

LA CAÑADA VALLEY SUN — JANUARY 31, 1991

Galileo glimpsed. Always up for a challenge, Paul Maley and Andy Saulhetis captured the Galileo spacecraft (arrowed on the photographs below) as it streaked homeward for a close flyby of the Earth last December 8th. Theirs was hardly a casual observation. To record this tiny moving target, they used the 32-inch reflector at Danciger Observatory near Houston, Texas, and a cooled CCD camera.



Paul Maley and Andy Saulhetis

Their first sighting of Galileo came more than 18 hours before the flyby, with the spacecraft 608,300 kilometers away. They took the two exposures shown here a few minutes later, at 2^h 20^m.3 (left) and 2^h 30^m.4 Universal time. During this interval the spacecraft moved 53 arc seconds among the stars of northern Orion. Maley estimates the craft's brightness at the time as magnitude 16½ or 17. Since Galileo was then well beyond the Moon's orbit, these images appear to set a record for the most distant spacecraft ever photographed. (For more coverage of the Galileo Earth flyby, see page 269.)

JPL Demolishes Old Contamination Site

As part of a continuing process to locate and investigate possible sites of contamination, La Cañada's Jet Propulsion Laboratory has uncovered and demolished an aged dilution chamber that was part of a storm drain system used more than 30 years ago.

Several weeks ago, a construction crew discovered the old storm drain system while repaving a road in the eastern portion of the Laboratory near the arroyo. The chamber contained liquid and a black, sandy sludge material.

Analysis of the sludge revealed traces of carbon tetrachloride (13,400 parts per million) and lesser amounts of other solvents and metals. Trace cyanide was measured at 0.5 parts per million. The removal and disposal of all the waste material was

handled according to federal, state and local requirements.

Once workers removed the dilution chamber they discovered an even older seepage pit underneath it. This seepage pit is believed to be one of 35 possible contamination sites in the area around the Laboratory that JPL officials have identified for future investigation. All new construction sites at JPL are routinely examined for possible signs of contamination. Seepage pits were used to dispose of a variety of material during the 1940s and 1950s when JPL was a U.S. Army ballistic missile facility.

Last year, JPL contributed \$1.125 million to the City of Pasadena for the construction of a temporary treatment plan that will decontaminate four water wells in the arroyo.

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keep, estimated at \$1.5 million to \$3 million yearly.

Federal tax records obtained by The Times show that the foundation had raised \$52.2 million from 1985 through 1989, with another \$20 million in uncollected pledges. Garber said the IRS figures are misleading. Although he said he has no up-to-date figures, Garber put cash donations collected through 1989 at \$36.7 million.

Located off Madera Road between Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks, the Reagan Library will house an estimated 54 million pages of White House documents and 30,000 gifts Reagan received during his eight years as President.

The 22,000-square-foot public museum will trace Reagan's life from boyhood to the presidency. One gallery will be devoted to Nancy Reagan as First Lady.

In one section of the museum, construction crews are crafting a replica of the Oval Office. To make it more authentic, the Reagan foundation has asked the White House for the carpet and desk that Bush had pulled out of the Oval Office when he assumed the presidency.

"We are going to consider loaning the carpet," said Rex Scouten, White House curator. Bush is still using the desk in a residential wing of the White House.

Reagan aides say the arid beauty

of the Simi Hills, with dramatic outcroppings of red rock, has worked out as an ideal setting for the Reagan Library.

Not only does the terrain recall the dozens of movie Westerns shot on location in the hills; politically, this is Reagan country, too. The area voted overwhelmingly for Reagan for President and is known for its blend of conservative politics and orderly suburban lifestyle.

Building from scratch in an undeveloped section of Ventura County has driven up the cost of the project by requiring construction of a 400,000-gallon water tank on the library grounds and a mile-long access road that twists up the hillside.